

Minutes of the Board of Directors for Community Leaders Advocating Student Success (C.L.A.S.S.)
operating as Fannie C. Williams Charter School
October 24, 2019

Directors present: 1) Emily Roubion, 2) Brenda Minor, 3) Donyette Love, 4) Anthony "Tony" LaPierre, 5) Shannon London, and 6) Al Edwards

Directors absent: 1) Debra Dean and, 2) Duane Stelly

Other attendees: Brenda Watson

The chair was assumed by Mrs. Roubion since the President and Vice President was absent and the roll was immediately taken. All were present, as shown above, except for Al Edwards, who came late. The meeting was then called to order at 6:44 p.m.

Madam Chair asked for members to review the proposed agenda and for someone to make a motion to adopt the agenda as printed. The agenda was reviewed and Tony made a motion to adopt; seconded by Mrs. Minor. The motion unanimously passed.

Mrs. Roubion then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Tony made a motion to approve the board minutes; seconded by Shannon. The motion unanimously passed.

With no correspondences to report, Mrs. Roubion then asked for the Principal's/CEO report. Mrs. Watson gave this report in the absence of Kelly. Brief comments were made on staffing. Mrs. Watson brought to the board's attention that two employees were out on disability leave, the custodian and Mrs. Calhoun, a Special Education teacher. She informed the board that this leave resulted from issues that did not take place on the school premise. With no further comments regarding staffing, a more detailed discussion took place regarding enrollment.

Mrs. Watson stated currently, the school's enrollment is at 565; inclusive of pre-k. However, she brought to the board's attention that the school doesn't get paid for pre-k students. Additionally, she stated that the school was still getting paid on 540 students; the number of students from last year. At this time, Al entered the meeting.

Various board members and Mrs. Watson brought Al up to speed about where we were and then Emily relinquished the chair to Al.

Discussion then continued regarding the budget. Mrs. Watson continued by informing the board that regarding this year's budgeted number of 532, that the school's mfp is currently at 527 and noted that in comparison to last year's numbers, that we are about 8 kids short (540-532) of our budgeted number. She further went into detail by saying that in actuality, we are getting paid for 13 students less than last year (540-527) and that this loss of about 13 students is costing us somewhere around \$125,000 (rounded) in lost revenue that the school desperately needs. See the actual cost per student in table 1 of the attachment titled, "Fannie C. Williams Charter School, October 2019-Monthly School-Level Funding Allocation from OPSB."

Brief discussion then took place about budget cuts approved by the board in prior meeting and potential budget cuts that could be made to reduce costs. Additionally, Brenda commented that as the board, we

must start looking at means of securing alternative funds for the school i.e., fundraisers. Additionally, she went on to say that we must find some way to get the surrounding community invested in the success of the school.

Back and forth conversation took place amongst the board regarding this matter. Al proposed incentivized and/or paid for tutoring sessions offered by the school. He explained that with respect to incentivized tutoring that those students who attended could get some type of points for each tutoring session and that these points could be applied to any classroom assignments. Regarding paid for tutoring, he stated that the school could start charging students/parents for tutoring and that possibly solicit a pool of teachers to rotate offering these tutoring sessions. Discussion then took place regarding the pros and cons of all these recommendations; however, with no decision being voted upon, Al called for an end to the discussion. With no objections, the meeting continued.

Al then asked for public comments, at this point, Mrs. Watson interjected and informed the board that she forgot to discuss the NOLA public school schedule of quarterly charter board chair meetings as well as the board observation forms. She asked the board to review these forms and to become somewhat familiar with them b/c this sheds light on what reviewers will be evaluating boards on. Lastly, she stated reviewers would be attending one of our future meetings with the purpose of evaluating us.

This was duly noted by the board and with no further matters to discuss; Al called for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Roubion made the motion and it was seconded by Tony. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45p.m.